





## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Anthony MENNINGER

SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER

PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR SOLVING AND

REVIEWING A SOLUTION IN A SUPPLY CHAIN

**FRAMEWORK** 

Appl. No.:

09/816, 471

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

2133

RECEIVED

SEP 3 0 2002

**Technology Center 2100** 

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents **Box PATENT APPLICATION** Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED OCT 0 3 2002 **GROUP 3600** 

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie art reference against the claims of the present application.

## TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

## RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The foregoing documents were cited in the International Search Report in Applicant's International Application PCT/US02/08287. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the Examiner is attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

William T. Ellis

Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 26,874

Date: September 27, 2002

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number. Substitute for form 1449B/PTO Complete if Known INFORMATION DISCLOSURE **Application Number** 09/816, 471 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 03/23/2001 **Filing Date First Named Inventor** Anthony Frank MENNINGER te Submitted: September 27, 2002 2133 Group Art Unit 2 7 2002 **Examiner Name** Unassigned se as many sheets as necessary) Attorney Docket Number 062834-0128

Sheet

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				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS	3	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document			Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	B1	5,950,173		PERKOWSKI	09-07-1999	•
	B2	6,084,528		BEACH et al.	07-04-2000	
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Fore Office <sup>3</sup>	eign Patent D Number⁴	Ocument Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Т6
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OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. 2See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.